

CONNECTIONS

The Latest News from the Inter-American Foundation

IN THE NEWS

Guatemalan President host IAF Board of Directors

he IAF board of directors met with Guatemalan President, U.S. ambassadors, business leaders, and various grantee organizations on its Feb. 2-8 trip to Guatemala and El Salvador. Roger Wallace, IAF chairman, Nadine Hogan, vice chair, Jack Vaughn and Kay Arnold, joining the group in El Salvador, traveled with several IAF staff. In Guatemala, President Oscar Berger and first lady Wendy Widmann Lagarde de Berger hosted a lunch at the presidential residence for the group on Feb. 3, where the first lady praised the IAF's work.

At the site visits, the board met with indigenous women from Organización para la Promoción Comercial y la Investigación (OPCION), an organization of Guatemala farmers that exports vegetables to the U.S. In San Salvador the board



IAF board chair Roger Wallace pictured with President Oscar Berger.

members visited Fundación Salvadoreña para la Reconstrucción y el Desarrollo's (REDES) mobile markets, which works with the municipality to clean up the streets, reduce traffic and increase street vendors' income. The group also saw the fruit and vegetable packaging center managed by Fundacion Promotora de Productores y Empresarios Salvadoreños (PROESA) in rural El Salvador. The day of the board's visit, El Diario de Hoy, a Salvadoran daily, ran a story on PROESA's production of Jamaican sorrel tea, a local herb.

Creation of Spaces Seminar

he IAF hosted "Local Governance and the Creation of Local Spaces of Civic Action," two half-day seminars held March 8 at the Lyndon B. Johnson School for Public Affairs in Austin, Texas, and March 10 at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. More than 200 academics, students, researchers and policy-makers discussed deliberative roundtables, electronic civic forums and the participatory budgeting process as examples of how citizens are engaging governments in designing, implementing and evaluating public policies in Latin America.

The seminars are part of ongoing research by the Fundación Nacional Superior de la Pobreza, a non-governmental organization in Santiago, Chile. The IAF is interested in connecting these new participation mod-

Moodrow Wilson Center

Panfichi and Bebbington at the conference

els with sustainable economic development projects. Workshop speakers included Gonzalo de la Masa, Chilean sociologist, and Rodrigo Villar, Colombian anthropologist, who coordinated the study, Aldo Panfichi from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Cristina Filgueiras from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Minas Gerais, Brazil, Anthony Bebbington from the University of Manchester in the U.K., Gabriel Murrillo from the Universidad de los Andes in Colombia, Andrew Selee from the Woodrow Wilson Center, and Peter Ward and Bryan Roberts from the University of Texas-Austin. Project results will be compiled for publication by the end of 2005.

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IN THE FIELD

GRANTEE NEWS

Travel

The IAF offers travel grants to support exchanges and learning opportunities such as those listed below. Grantees seeking travel support should contact their foundation representative for more information.

Gilberto Arturo Diaz of Honduras's Agua Para El Pueblo traveled to the International Conference on Water Use and Management, in Santiago, Chile, March 14-18.

From March 14-18, four representatives from Programa Integral para el Desarrollo de Café (PIDECAFE) in Peru attended a training seminar for NGO directors sponsored by Stanford University, in Palo Alto, Calif. With IAF support, PIDECAFE assists 20 associations of coffee producers and a regional growers association with a regional network of community enterprises to produce and sell brown sugar in the Piura highlands.

Gregoria Flores of Organización Fraternal (OFRANEH), an Afro-Latino Garifuna group in Honduras, traveled to Brazil for the "Policy Dialogue on Advancing Equity and Racial Inclusion," a conference sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the UK's Department for International Development (DIFID) and the office of the Brazilian President from April 11-14.

April 19, Tim Wells and Carolina Concha, representatives of Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco (CTTC), described new weaving techniques at the Textile Museum in Washington, DC. CTTC is an association of six weaving groups working to restore old patterns and dyes, selling their goods in a store near Cusco, Peru.

On April 29, Panama's Centro de Estudio para la Promoción Del Desarrollo (PRODES) organized a national forum on intercultural relations and education. The goal was to promote the inclusion of Panamanians of African descent. More than 300 people attended. With the IAF's support, PRODES provides training, technical assistance and credit to stimulate micro-enterprises in the Portobelo municipal district, where tourism is rapidly expanding.

Joaquin Cajbón Uscap of Museo Comunitario "Rabinal Achi" in Baja Verapaz, Guatemala will attend the Sixth Annual Meeting of Community Museums, sponsored by the Community Museum of Oaxaca, June 5-11, in Nueva Guinea, Nicaragua.

Representatives from El Ceibo, an organic chocolate farmers' cooperative from Alto Beni, Bolivia will participate at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., June 23-July 4. Kevin Healy, IAF representative for Bolivia, will present and coordinate the exhibit.

Oswaldo Contreras, Sergio Graf and Salvador Garcia of Mexico's Niños y Crías will attend the annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology in Brasilia, July 15-19. The group will demonstrate how scientists can join with civil society organizations and park managers to conduct education campaigns on biodiversity preservation.

Marina Kosacoff and Cintia Cejas of Argentine grantee Center for the Implementation of Public Policies Promoting Equity and Growth (CIPPEC) will travel to exchange local development experiences with Acción Ciudadana para la Educación, la Democracía y el Desarrollo, A.C. (ACCEDDE) of Guadalajara, Mexico, July 17-24.

Summit of the Americas Update

April 11-12, the Organization of American States (OAS) hosted the Civil Society Hemispheric Forum at their headquarters in Washington, D.C. inviting registered civil society organizations to comment on proposed resolutions for the general assembly planned for June 5-7 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Patricio Carpio Benalcázar, executive director of former IAF Ecuadorian grantee Oficina de Investigaciones Sociales y del Desarrollo (OFIS), Gustavo Gamallo, executive director of current Argentine grantee Red Interamericana para la Democracia (RID), Alicia Saura, director of current Uruguayan grantee Mundo Afro, and Carlos Quesada, Latin American director of Global Rights presented impressions of the two-day meeting to IAF staff on April 13.

Interested organizations can register with the OAS's summit follow-up office and participate in similar planned national forums before the summit in Mar del Plata, Argentina, November 4-5. These forums cover such issues as labor, women, sustainable development, agricultural and rural life, and human rights. Interested grantees should contact their foundation representative. See the summit Web site for a list of national forums and information on how to apply. Log onto <www.summit-americas.org>

RedEAmérica

RedEAmérica, an IAF supported initiative to engage companies and corporate foundations in grassroots development, has two new members. Corporación Sociedad Activa (CSA) is the first cooperative in Chile to work with community asset-based development and join the network. Procter & Gamble, 3M, DHL, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Xerox, Coca Cola, Kodak and IBM support CSA's work. The Fundación Daniele Agostino supports women and children in indigenous communities, with special attention to health and education policy in Guatemala and Mexico. Founded in 2002, RedEAmérica now has 53 members in 12 countries

IN THE KNOW

GRANTEE RESOURCES

Awards

Two IAF grantees won the Grupo Cultural Afro-Reggae prize for social engineering. Incubadora Afro-Brasileira (of Instituto Palmares de Direitos Humanos) received the Orilaxé prize for best social project and Ivanir dos Santos (of CEAP) won the Orilaxé prize for social entrepreneurship. The prizes were established in 2000 to celebrate the diversity in Brazilian culture. For more information log onto <www.afroreggae.org.br/sec_orilaxe.php>.

Results of Delnet's online local development program for the 2005-6 academic year are now available on the Delnet Web site. The IAF awards partial scholarships to 20 IAF grantees and 20 other organizations taking the online course. Delnet is a local development support program run by the International Training Centre of the International Labor Organization, a United Nation specialized agency based in Turin, Italy. For more information and selected candidates visit http://learning.itcilo.org/delnet/pg/frames/marcos.asp?idioma=esp&seccion=home>

Disseminate your project

The Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in the UK is looking for short case studies describing how civil society organizations (CSOs) have influenced local and national policy. Case studies should be simple stories of CSOs engaged with policy processes, the nature of their impact, the reasons why and the relative role of research-based evidence in the process. Selected papers not exceeding 1500 words, will receive \$1500. Priority will be given to authors in developing countries. Contact Enrique Mendizabal at e.mendizabal@odi.org.uk. For more information visit <www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Projects/PPA0104/Index.h tml>.

Fellowships

The City University of New York's Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society has two fellowships for interested applicants. The senior international fellows program for fall 2005 provides an opportunity for the professional development of third-sector practitioners from outside the U.S. The spring 2006 emerging leader's international fellows program is for younger scholar-practitioners working in the nonprofit sector in the U.S. and overseas; it provides leadership training through applied

research and professional mentorship. The deadline for the senior program is June 15 and for the emerging leaders is Aug. 15. For a brochure with eligibility and application guidelines, see the center's Web site at <www.philanthropy.org>.

Guest Speakers

On January 25, Heather Franzese, development manager of TRANSFAIR, a fair-trade advocate organization, spoke on its strategy to open fair trade markets in the U.S. to low-income, third world farmers. New niche products include teas, chocolate, nuts and fruits. For more information visit <www.transfairusa.org>.

Also in January, César Cárdenas Ramírez, executive director of Movimiento Mi Cometa, described their work of a youth-led advocate organization in El Guasmo Sur in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Movimiento Mi Cometa cooperates with city officials and local business to implement community projects such as sewage systems, neighborhood policing and civic education programs. Dana Hill, an American University graduate currently working with Mi Cometa, showed recent project photographs to IAF staff in February.

On Feb. 17, representatives of Afro-descendent communities in Brazil visited the IAF as part of the U.S. Department of State's voluntary visitor program. These visitors represented the quilombos, rural Afro-Brazilian communities originally founded by runaway slaves. Miriam Brandao, IAF representative for Brazil, organized the discussion.

Derek Newberry, a student at George Washington University and former IAF intern, spoke on his research on women's participation in development on Feb.17.

On April 22, Ben Moerman, currently a Kettering Foundation fellow, described "communicative ethics," the moral philosophy of Jurgen Habermas and the philosophical root of the deliberative democracy movement.

On April 26, Mette Karlsen, a Mickey Leland international hunger fellow, sponsored by the Congressional Hunger Center, spoke to the IAF about food security in Bolivia and Haiti.

On April 27, Jonathan Fox spoke to the IAF on Mexican migration and development issues. He is a professor at University of California San Diego, former IAF fellow and currently a Woodrow Wilson Center fellow.

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) is an independent agency of the **United States government** that provides grants to nongovernmental and community-based organizations in **Latin America and the** Caribbean for innovative. sustainable and participatory self-help programs. The IAF primarily funds partnerships among grassroots and nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments, directed at improving the quality of life of poor people and strengthening participation, accountability and democratic practices. To contribute to a better understanding of the development process, the IAF also shares its experiences and the lessons it has learned.

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IN THE KNOW

Upcoming Conferences

Eleventh Annual Inter-American Conference for Mayors and Local Officials, Miami, Florida, June 21–23

An estimated 500 mayors and other local officials participate in this annual meeting organized by Florida International University and Miami-Dade County. The IAF will sponsor training sessions the second day on local development, citizen participation, transparency, and local financing mechanisms. For more information visit http://chua2.fiu.edu/ipmcs/Default.htm.

Topics of the trainings sessions were defined by invited mayors and experts in municipal management for a thee-day planning meeting hosted by the IAF, March 16–18. While in Washington, DC, Enrique Gallichio from former grantee in Uruguay, CLAEH; Adriana Clemente from current grantee in Argentina, IIED-LA; Sergio Zurano, head of the management and anti-corruption office for the municipality of Morón, Buenos Aires, Argentina; and John Graham, director of Canadian Federation of Municipalities, also spoke at informal working sessions at the World Bank and the Woodrow Wilson Center.

Linking Community Development Practice to Public Policy Baltimore, MD. June 26–29

The IAF is sponsoring a panel of IAF grantees from Argentina, Mexico and Ecuador to discuss effective policy processes originating from the grassroots. For more information visit http://comm-dev.org/>.

National Council of La Raza Annual Conference Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 16 – 19

IAF is sponsoring a panel on youth organizing with grantees from Afro-Latino descendents communities in this year's Youth Summit. This four-day event will bring together more than 300 young people to talk about community organizing. Afro-Latino descendent youth from IAF grantees Mi Cometa in Ecuador and Mundo Afro in Paraguay and Uruguay will also meet with representatives of the Latin American Youth Center in Washington, D.C. to share experiences. For more information see NCLR site <www.nclr.org>.

Second Inter-American Summit on Decentralization and Local/Regional Governance, San Salvador, El Salvador, July 20–22

Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE), with support from the IAF and the Diputación de Barcelona (DIBA) will bring international, regional, national and local development specialists for a two day conference on local governance. The estimated 400 participants expected represent civil society, business, government, and international organizations including the OAS's High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government and Citizen Participation (RIAD).

Business for Social Responsibility 2005 Annual Conference, San Francisco, California November 1-4

The annual BSR conference is the largest global networking and education event for professionals in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The IAF will host panelists from successful partnerships of local business, government and civil society working in Latin America. For more information visit <www.bsr.org/conference>.

Workshops and Meetings

Deliberation Workshop, Tijuana, Mexico, April 25-29

More than 30 Mexican grantee representatives attended this workshop organized by Mexican grantee Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad, the first training event in a series of deliberation workshops from IAF grant to RID. For more information e-mail Nora Arzeno at narzeno@redinter.org.

Data Verifiers Workshop, Boca Chica, Dominican Republic, May 16 – 20.

IAF contractors reviewed policy, plans, procedures, administrative tasks and the application of the Grassroots Development Framework for fiscal 2006 grantees. E-mail IAF evaluation specialist Miguel Cuevas for further information at mcuevas@iaf.gov.

2005 FUNDING CYCLE

In April, IAF's program office concluded most of its in-house review for more than 1800 proposals received in the 2005 funding cycle. Approximately 50 will receive funding. Applicants are reminded that the IAF will only consider submissions that strictly adhere to our instructions as to information required, criteria and page limit. New proposals may now be submitted throughout the year and will be reviewed as they are received. For more details, see the application guidelines for how to apply for a grant on the IAF Web site.

WWW.IAF.GOV

IN PRINT

IAF Publications



The IAF's 2004 annual report was printed in English and Spanish in April 2005. *Grassroots Development* for 2005 is in production. To receive a free IAF publication, please send your full postal address and the publication desired to publications@iaf.gov.

Grassroots Development for 2004 has generated considerable commentary, particularly on Patrick Breslin's article "Thinking Outside Newton's Box: Metaphors for Grassroots Development for State of Control of Con

opment" which traces the relation between progress made in the sciences and how this relates to our ways of thinking about development. In addition to letters from the U.S. and Latin America, the IAF also received comments from readers in India and Bangladesh.

The *Grassroots Development* journals published between 1977 and 1994 will be available as PDF files on the Web. The IAF regrets any inconvenience caused when we lost our vital database related to the Web site in September. To prevent this from happening again, our Web site is now housed on a more secure server. Lost information has been recaptured and is currently being recoded.

In January, the IDB's "Ethics and Development," a Web bulletin on social capital, ethics and development, highlighted IAF program staff assistant, Eduardo Rodríguez-Frías's article "Development Capacities" published in *Grassroots Development* 2004. The feature, describing the inclusion of the disabled in development projects, was also reproduced in conjunction with the 2004 World Bank International Disabilities Conference. The Concessional Finance and Global Partnership (CFP), the World Bank's foundation team, distributed more than 250 copies of a CD including Rodríguez-Frías's article and other foundation documents. For a CD e-mail efrias@iaf.gov.

Former IAF contractors in Brazil, Lucia Calil and Eduardo Ehlers, contributed to *Terceiro Setor: Planejamento e Gestão*, (Third Sector: Planning and Management), a book published last year in Portuguese by Fundacão Getulio Vargas. For a copy visit http://integracao.fgvsp.br/ano7/04/index.htm.

Photography

The IAF photo exhibit "Making their Way" is currently on display at the Chilean Embassy. Visit the exhibit 9-5p.m. at 1732 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC.

The IAF co-sponsored with the Inter-Agency Consultation on Race and National Council of La Raza (NCLR) a series of events, May 11-12 highlighting the experience of African-descendant populations in Mexico. Along with lectures at the Woodrow Wilson Center and the NCLR, an exhibition of twelve Afro-Mexican photographs by Ayana Jackson was featured at the NCLR headquarters in Washington, D.C. Speakers on Afro-Mexican topics were Bobby Vaughn of Notre Dame de Namur University, Sagrario Cruz-Carreterro of the State University of Veracruz and Jonathan Fox, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow.

Grantees in the Press

On March 27, *The Daily News*, a Los Angeles newspaper, mentioned IAF grantee Centro de Recursos Centroamericanos Internacional – El Salvador (CARECEN Internacional - El Salvador) in "A Womans Work," an article describing the influx of female immigrants into the U.S. and their sacrifices to send money home for their families. CARECEN links communities in El Salvador and their corresponding home town associations (HTAs) in the U.S. with grassroots development projects. To download the article, see http://dailynews.com/

On Feb. 23, The *New York Times* highlighted migration and development issues in its front page article "Mexico's Migrants Profit From Dollars Sent Home." Efrain Jiménez and Guadalupe Gómez, profiled in the article, represent the Zacatecan Federation of Southern California, an organization that works with Red Internacional de Migración y Desarrollo. RMD will use its 2004 IAF grant to develop new opportunities for migrant investment in income-generating projects in southern Zacatecas. For an abstract of the archived article, visit http://www.nytimes.com/2005/02/23/international/americas/23migrants.html?hp.

On Feb.19, El Ceibo, a recycling cooperative and current IAF grantee, was mentioned in *Clarin*, an Argentine daily, for its promotion of the separation of trash in Buenos Aires. El Ceibo received a grant in 2003 to expand its recycling operation, train members and partners on aspects of recycling, sorting materials and better collection.

On Dec. 28, 2004, Aj Ticonel, a business organization working in tandem with IAF grantee OPCION in Guatemala, was profiled in a *New York Times* article "The Food Chain: Survival of the Biggest; Supermarket Giants Crush Central American Farmers." A Chimaltenango-based NGO, OPCION offers Guatemalan farmers access to credit, technical assistance and markets. Aj Ticonel identifes buyers and assure producers meet standards set by clients abroad. For an abstract of the archived article visit

http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F10913FF3D5D0C788EDDAB0994DC404482&incamp

Study in progress

Rebeca Rangel and Norma Dominguez received a grant from Harvard University's David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies and the Mexico Program at the Kennedy School of Government to research IAF's projects related to transnationalism and development assistance in El Salvador and Mexico. Conclusions will be shared with the IAF staff in early summer.

Useful Links

Deliberative Democracy Consortium's Web site has more than 400 articles relating to deliberative democracy, news, current events and projects. To subscribe to the eBulletin, e-mail editor@deliberative-democracy.net.

AT THE IAF

Executive Travel

IAF vice president for programs Ramón Daubón, attended a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) democratic dialogue workshop in Geneva, Switzerland, March 28-31. The Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), the UNDP, and the Department of Democratic and Political Affairs of the OAS, with the support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), met to develop a practitioner's handbook on democratic dialogue.

Patrick Breslin, vice president for external affairs, spoke on six panels during the 57th Annual World Affairs Conference, in Boulder CO, April 4-8, and also spoke on IAF's work to University of Denver graduate students.

April 10-12, Marcy Kelley, deputy vice president for programs, attended the Council on Foundation's 56th Annual Conference, in San Diego, Calif.

IAF director of evaluation Emilia Rodriguez-Stein attended the 28th Eastern Evaluation Research Society Meeting on Ethics, Evidence and Evaluation in Absecon, New Jersey, April 17-19.

Walter Price, IAF director of corporate programs, attended the RedEAmérica advisory council meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, April 14-15. Representatives from 12 countries met to discuss ongoing activities.

New Faces

Tina Balin-Brooks, new foundation representative for Haiti and the Dominican Republic, has more than 10 years experience working on refugee issue. She worked in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba during the 1994-1995 Cuban and Haiti boat people crisis with the Department of Health and Human Services' office of refugee resettlement. Balin-Brooks lived in Haiti for four years with a U.S. Department of Justice program. She is fluent in French, Spanish and Haitian Creole. A native of Washington, D.C., she has strong Caribbean ties: her parents are from Guyana and Haiti and her husband is Jamaican. Tina has a B.A. in French literature and Psychology from Washington College in Chestertown, MD, and is completing an M.A. in world politics at Catholic University.

Farewell

President David Valenzuela retired from the IAF in January with thirty years of U.S. government service. He is currently directing a local development and alternative crop project funded by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Peru.

Valenzuela joined the IAF in 1979 and became president in April 2000. He served as representative for Peru and Bolivia, senior representative for the Andean Region, regional director for the Southern Cone and Brazil, and regional director for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean as well as vice president for programs.

Valenzuela directed the U.S. Peace Corps office in Chile and served as deputy director in El Salvador; represented the Andean region for Church World Service; and worked as the Latin American program officer for the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service (ISVS), which became the United Nations Volunteer Program.

Staff Activities

Grantmakers without Borders, an international NGO promoting global social change, highlighted IAF representative Kevin Healy's advice for successful grassroots development projects on its Web site. The excerpts come from Healy's book *Llamas, Weavings, and Organic Chocolate: Multicultural Grassroots Development in the Andes and Amazon of Bolivia* (Notre Dame Press: 2001). For more information and Healy's recommendations visit <www.internationaldonors.org/gscp/grassroots.htm>.

IAF public affairs specialist Heidi Smith spoke at the Woodrow Wilson Center's Decentralization, Local Initiatives and Participation Research Seminar in Guatemala City on April 8. Teresa Gutierrez, IAF Guatemalan data verifier, Rolando Gutierrez, IAF contractor for El Salvador, Rosamaria Cruz, IAF contractor for Guatemala, and Marcos Rodriguez from Salvadoran grantee FUNDE joined more than 150 Guatemalan students, academics and partitions to evaluate a recent decentralization law.

Jill Wheeler, IAF representative for Mexico, spoke on the role of foundations at the international seminar on problems and changes facing migration and development in the Americas, held in Cuernavaca, Mexico, April 7-9. IAF representative for El Salvador Kaye Pyle also attended.

Spring Interns

Jennifer Hebets, a George Washington University undergraduate majoring in international affairs and Spanish, reviewed IAF funding to migration and development and researched the fair-trade honey market.

Laura Kurland, an M.A. candidate in international peace and conflict resolution at American University, researched IAF eco-tourism projects.

Melissa Draper, an M.A. candidate at the John Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Affairs, worked on Bolivia proposals with the Program Office.

Carolyn Meushaw, a Towson University undergraduate majoring in geography and environmental planning, worked with the Office of Evaluation on gender equality.

Melissa Budahazy, an M.A. candidate in international communications at American University, worked with the Office of External Affairs. She plans to work with former IAF grantee Oficina de Investigaciones Sociales y del Desarrollo (OFIS) in Cuenca, Ecuador.

Student volunteer forms for the 2005/06 academic school year are available. Current students are encouraged to apply. For further information, e-mail info@iaf.gov.

Kudos

The IAF is proud to announce that Waskar Ari, founder of a former IAF grantee, an IAF Fellow both for his graduate study in the U.S. and dissertation field work, on May 20 received his PhD in History from Georgetown University. Ari is the second Aymara indigenous person from Bolivia after Tomas Huanca (also an IAF Fellow) to have received his Ph D in the social sciences from a U.S. university.